



[home](#) > [areas of expertise](#) > [ideas, identities and decisional processes](#) > does economic integration promote cooperation abroad?

[Use of Force and Diplomacy](#)
[Ideas, Identities and](#)
[Decisional Processes that](#)
[Affect Security](#)
[Institutions that Manage](#)
[Violent Conflict](#)

Does Economic Integration Promote Cooperation Abroad?

Principal Investigator: Timothy Frye

Economic integration is perhaps the most commonly cited cure for Russia's ills. Many observers argue that expanded trade with Western countries, membership in international organizations, and increased foreign investment are critical to increasing the stability of Russia's legal environment at home and its cooperative relations abroad.

Others, however, argue that international integration may provoke a political backlash from groups harmed by expansion of the global economy. Workers and managers in sectors competing with foreign imports may be most likely to reject economic openness.

This project examines the support for economic integration and international cooperation among both business elites and the mass public in Russia. Carried out with two years of support from the Mershon Center, it involves an original survey of 660 business leaders and the addition of questions to an existing Russian national survey.

Answers to these questions will provide insight into whether business elites and the mass public differ in their views of the relationship between economic integration and international security. Do those who favor greater economic openness see the United States and Europe as less threatening than those who don't?

The analysis will also determine whether the views of people who work in sectors affected by the global economy differ from the views of people whose jobs are not so affected. Are those who feel threatened by economic integration more likely to vote for Russian nationalist candidates?

By analyzing the affect of globalization on support for economic integration and international cooperation at both the mass and elite levels, this project will provide an in-depth assessment of how Russians view their place in the global community.



Timothy Frye
Professor of Political
Science
Now at Columbia
University

1501 Neil Ave.
Columbus, OH 43201
Phone: 614.292.1681
Fax: 614.292.2407
Email: mershoncenter@osu.edu